

What is claimed is:

1. A game adapted to be played on a grass surface, the game comprising:

5 one or more solid-surface game obstacles structured to cause a game ball to change vertical position relative to a playing field to which the obstacles are attached after said ball has been struck.

2. The game of claim 1 wherein the game obstacles are  
10 structured to be temporarily affixed to the playing field.

3. The game of claim 2 wherein at least one obstacle comprises at least two receivers through which at least two securing stakes can be respectively passed.

15 4. The game of claim 3, further comprising at least two securing stakes each having a first portion structured to pass through one of the receivers, and each having a second portion structured to mechanically interfere with a portion of one of the receivers to secure the at least one  
20 obstacle to the playing field.

5. The game of claim 4 wherein the stakes are coded to identify a game ball or game player.

25 6. The game of claim 3 wherein at least one of the receivers comprises an eyelet.

7. The game of claim 3 wherein at least one of the receivers comprises a lug.

8. A method of playing a yard game, comprising:  
selecting a unique game ball;  
associating one of a plurality of solid-surfaced game obstacles to the  
game ball; and

5 striking the game ball with a mallet to cause it to negotiate the  
associated obstacle, the associated obstacle structured to allow lateral  
movement of a ball while negotiating the obstacle.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein associating one of the game  
10 obstacles to the game ball comprises attaching a flag to the game obstacle,  
the flag associated with the game ball.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the flag is associated with the  
game ball by color.

15 11. A helical loop yard game obstacle, comprising:  
a main surface having a generally helical curved shape; and  
first and second raised edges attached to side edges of the main  
surface.

20 12. The obstacle of claim 11 further comprising at least one  
receiver coupled to an edge of the obstacle and structured to accept an  
attaching device therethrough.

25 13. The obstacle of claim 12 wherein the attaching device is a  
stake.

14. The obstacle of claim 11 wherein the main surface is wider  
than the diameter of a game ball.

15. The obstacle of claim 11 wherein the obstacle has an entry end and an exit end, the obstacle further comprising a flange coupled to the entry end.

5           16. A curved yard game obstacle having a solid rolling surface, comprising:

an entry portion adjacent to a playing surface;

an exit portion; and

a curved middle portion between the entry and exit portions.

10           17. The obstacle of claim 16, further comprising an edge attached to an outside radius of the curved middle portion, the edge structured to change direction of a game ball that is negotiating the obstacle.

15           18. The obstacle of claim 16 wherein the middle portion is elevated compared to the entry portion.

19. The obstacle of claim 16 wherein an outside radius of the curved middle portion is elevated compared to an inside radius of the  
20 curved middle portion.

20. The obstacle of claim 16 wherein the exit portion is adjacent to the playing surface.

25           21. The obstacle of claim 16, further comprising at least one receiver coupled to an edge of the obstacle and structured to accept an attaching device therethrough.

22. An inclined pipe game obstacle, comprising:

a pipe-shaped main body having an entry end and an exit end, the main body shaped to accommodate a game ball traveling therethrough; and

5 a rest positioned underneath the main body and between the ends, the rest structured to elevate the exit end of the main body.

23. The obstacle of claim 22 wherein the pipe-shaped main body is circular in cross-section.

10 24. The obstacle of claim 22 wherein the pipe-shaped main body is oval in cross section.

25. The obstacle of claim 22 further comprising a flange attached to the entry end.

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26. The obstacle of claim 22 further comprising a clamping device structured to affix the entry end of the main body at a playing surface.

27. A croquet obstacle set, comprising:

20 a first obstacle structured to ramp a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the first obstacle;

a second obstacle structured to cause a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the second obstacle to travel in a helical loop;

25 a third obstacle structured to bank around a curve a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the third obstacle; and

a fourth obstacle structured to ramp through an inclined tunnel a croquet ball that enters an entry portion of the fourth obstacle.

28. The croquet set of claim 27 wherein at least one of the obstacles is temporarily securable to a playing surface through a securing device coupled to the at least one obstacle.

5 29. The croquet set of claim 28 wherein the securing device is a receiver through which a stake can pass.